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IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACKS HONORED AT LABOR
DEPARTMENT AWARD CEREMONY

FRANK C. CASILLAS, FORMER CORPORATE EXECUTIVE
FROM CHICAGO, TAPPED FOR LABOR DEPARTMENT POST

DONOVAN GRANTS $900,000 TO AID JOBLESS WORKERS
IN 13 ALABAMA COUNTIES

LABOR DEPARTMENT GRANT TO AID
JOBLESS VETERANS IN COOK COUNTY

LABOR DEPARTMENT PUBLISHES NEW REGISTER
OF REPORTING LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

OSHA EXTENDS TO JUNE 4 COMMENT PERIOD FOR
OIL AND GAS WELL DRILLING AND SERVICING

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--FEBRUARY 1984

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The U.S. Department of Labor operates through 10 regional offices located in major cities across the country. If you want a local angle on a news or feature story provided through this service--or have a direct news inquiry--you may contact one of the offices listed below. This listing includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Public Information Directors and the states in their regions:

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Seattle, WA 98174
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Week of March 26, 1984

BLACKS HONORED AT LABOR
DEPARTMENT AWARD CEREMONY

WASHINGTON -- Under Secretary of Labor Ford B. Ford recently presented Distinguished Career Service Awards to 67 Labor Department employees in "recognition of career service marked by sustained high quality and efficiency," including five black men and women from the Washington, D.C., area.

They are:

-- Charlie Y. Boyd, program analyst with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Boyd's 21-year career with the department has been characterized by a "consistently high quality of service." He was cited for "distinguished service to working men and women through his efforts in the occuaptional safety and health area."

-- Elsie W. Burwell, program analysis officer, Office of the Comptroller, was recognized for her "highly superior analytical communications and managerial ability which contributed significantly to improving administrative management."

-- Ella L. Clements, a 15-year career civil servant with the department, was recognized for her "sustained high quality and efficiency." She is a disclosure clerk with the Labor-Management Services Administration.

-- Robert W. Fisher, executive editor of the Monthly Labor Review, Bureau of Labor Statistics, was recognized for "sustained creative and dedicated contributions as economist, editor and manager."

-- Wilton A. Zanders, financial manager, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, was recognized for "the highest level of public service, and to the continuing support to accomplish the mission of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration."

This year's 71st Annual Honor Awards Ceremony honored 67 persons who received Distinguished Career Service Awards; 19 individuals and groups presented Distinguied Achievement Awards, 16 individuals and groups Meritorious Achievement Awards, and 83 individuals length-of-service awards for having 35 or more years federal government employment.

In a message, Secretary of Labor Raymond J. Donovan observed that the program honored a select group of employees, but that "each day thousands of other Department employees perform equally important tasks with dedication and success."

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Week of March 26, 1984

FRANK C. CASILLAS, FORMER CORPORATE EXECUTIVE
FROM CHICAGO, TAPPED FOR LABOR DEPARTMENT POST

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan has nominated Frank C. Casillas, a management consultant and former corporate executive from Chicago, as assistant secretary of labor for employment and training.

Secretary of Labor Raymond J. Donovan said, "I am most pleased with the President's selection of Frank Casillas for the important position as head of the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

"The wide-ranging executive and leadership skills he has demonstrated in his distinguished private sector career will be a valuable asset in helping me carry out this Administration's goal of making our Nation's job training programs more efficient and effective."

Casillas, 57, has headed his own management consulting firm, Casillas Associates, in Chicago since June 1983. Previously, he was vice president of business development and technology with Amphenol, a division of Bunker Ramo-Eltra.

Before that he was vice-president for corporate development and technology for Bunker Ramo Corporation, a Fortune 500 electronics firm. He had been with that company since 1968 and had been a corporate officer since 1971.

Casillas was born in Ixtlan, Michoacan, Mexico. When he was three years of age, the family moved to East Chicago, Ind.

A graduate of Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering, in 1948, he later took graduate courses at Purdue in mathematics from 1956 to 1957. He served in the U.S. Army from 1948 to 1952. A first lieutenant, he served two years in Korea and received a Bronze Star Award.

From 1953 to 1957, Casillas was a staff engineer with Standard Oil Company of Indiana. After a two-year period as a systems analyst with Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, Calif., he joined General Electric where he served as sales engineer and manager of product planning and market research from 1958-68.

Casillas has served in various capacities in a number of businesses and organizations, including: chair, executive committee, of the President's Advisory Council on Minority Business Enterprise; chairman of the board of directors of the National Economic Development Association; director, Industrial National Bank and Borg Textiles, Inc., and the treasurer and member of the executive committee for the Republican National Hispanic Assembly. He has also been associated with the Institute of Electrical Engineers, a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Fund for Minority Engineering Students of the National Academy of Sciences.

Casillas and his wife, Louise (Clarkson) have six children ranging from 16 to 28 years of age.

If confirmed by the Senate, Casillas will succeed Albert Angrisani, the Reagan Administration's first assistant secretary for employment and training, who resigned to enter private business in October 1983.

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Week of March 26, 1984

DONOVAN GRANTS $900,000 TO AID JOBLESS WORKERS
IN 13 ALABAMA COUNTIES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor Raymond J. Donovan has announced a $900,000 training grant to help 1,600 dislocated workers in 13 Alabama counties find new jobs.

The project will be conducted in four retraining centers to be established in northern Alabama by the Tennessee Valley Authority in cooperation with the Alabama Post-Secondary School System.

"The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) funds for this project reflect the commitment of the Reagan Administration to insuring that America's workers can adapt their skills to the demands of emerging employment opportunities in an expanding economy.

"This Administration recognizes that, in a dynamic economy, workers will need to acquire new skills if they are to remain competitive," Donovan said. "We are determined to use the resources of JTPA in concert with private, state, and local resources, to provide the retraining opportunities that are needed."

He pointed out that "The $900,000 we have committed for this project is in addition to the $1.8 million already allotted to Alabama for dislocated worker projects under JTPA for the nine months ending June 30 this year."

The project, to be conducted by the Employment and Training Division of the State Department of Economic and Community Affairs in Montgomery, will concentrate on dislocated workers in the counties of Colbert, Blount, Lauderdale, Jackson, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan, Marshall, Dekalb, Marion, Winston, Cullman, and Etowah.

They will be provided vocational skills in such occupations as welder, ironworker, electrician, pipefitter, carpenter, bricklayer, computer data entry operator, word processor and computer operator, and programmer.

Individual assessments will be made of each worker and the participants will receive career awareness training, counseling, basic skills training, and individual referral and on-the-job training, job search assistance, placement and follow-up services.

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Week of March 26, 1984

LABOR DEPARTMENT GRANT TO AID
JOBLESS VETERANS IN COOK COUNTY

WASHINGTON -- The Cook Country, Ill., Office of Employment Training has received a U.S. Department of Labor grant of $50,000 to cordinate employment and training services for jobless veterans, Assistant Secretary of Labor William C. Plowden announced.

Plowden, who heads the Labor Department's Veterans' Employment and Training Service, said the grant will help Cook County set up a model program "to ensure fair and equitable utilitzation of employment and training services for unemployed veterans under the Job Training Partnership Act."

The federal job training act, which took effect Oct. 1, 1983, is designed to provide a million jobless Americans each year with training leading to permanent, self-sustaining jobs in the private sector. Title IV-C of the act established a special employment and training program for service-connected disabled veterans, veterans of the Vietnam era and veterans recently separated from the military service.

Cook County's coordination plan, to be operated by the Illinois Veterans Organizations Jobs for Veterans, Inc., will identify training services available to jobless veterans and refer eligible veterans to agencies providing the services.

By facilitating an exchange of information about available training, the program will help move veterans into unsubsidized employment, Plowden said.

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Week of March 26, 1984

LABOR DEPARTMENT PUBLISHES NEW REGISTER
OF REPORTING LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

WASHINGTON -- A book listing more than 50,000 national, intermediate, and local labor organizations filing reports required by the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act (LMRDA) or the Civil Service Reform Act (CSRA) has been published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The unions listed in the Register of Reporting Labor Organizations 1983 were considered active by the department as of June 30, 1983.

The Register is arranged alphabetically by state. Each reporting union is listed under the state and city where it is chartered to operate. The Register also lists the union's affiliation, if any, and its Labor Department file number. No street addresses or telephone numbers are given.

Under ederal law, unions representing employees in private industry and most unions representing Federal government employees must file annual financial reports and copies of their constitutions and by-laws with the Labor Department. The Register is a listing of those unions which have filed the required reports. The information contained in those reports, however, is not included in the Register but it is public information and is made available by the department.

Copies of the financial information and constitutions and by-laws submitted by reporting unions are kept on file at the Labor Department. These documents may be examined and copies obtained in Room N5616 of the Francis Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., 20216. Copies of the reports also may be obtained by mail by writing the department at the above address or by calling (202) 523-7393. There is a charge of 10-cents per page for providing copies of the reports.

The financial reports filed by unions contain information on their assets, liabilities, receipts, and disbursements, including the salaries paid officers and employees.

The 1983 Register contains several new appendices including:

- A listing showing each parent body union, its total number of reporting affiliates, and the number of states in which it has affiliates.
- The total number of reporting unions in each state in 1983, 1980, 1977, 1971, 1967, 1964, and 1960.
- Recently reported total assets and receipts of 211 active national and international unions.

Samples of the annual financial reports labor organizations must file with the department also are included in the Register.

Unions which have merged, changed their name or affiliation, or dissolved since the last Register was published in 1980 are summarized in a table for quick reference.

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The inclusion or exclusion of a union in any section of the Register does not constitute a legal determination as to its status within the meaning of any provision of Federal law or executive order.

Copies of the Register may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. The stock number is 029-011-00009-5.

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Week of March 26, 1984

OSHA EXTENDS TO JUNE 4 COMMENT PERIOD FOR
OIL AND GAS WELL DRILLING AND SERVICING

WASHINGTON -- In response to a number of requests, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is extending to June 4, 1984, the comment period for its proposed standard covering workers in oil and gas well drilling and servicing, the Labor Department announced.

The agency originally required comments on its Dec. 28, 1983 proposal to be postmarked by March 5, 1984.

OSHA also said that it plans to hold informal hearings on the proposal and will announce the hearing date, location and issues at a later time.

OSHA developed its proposal because injury and fatality rates in the industry are particularly high. The lost workday injury and illness rate for the "extraction" sector of the industry was 6.6 cases per 100 fulltime workers in 1981, nearly double the 3.8 rate for private industry as a whole while the servicing sector rate was 9.3, almost triple the overall average.

The proposal would cover about 5,400 rigs employing roughly 95,000 workers. Intended to supplement OSHA's general industry standards, the performance-oriented standard would require, among other things, the following: safety guarding and special safety mechanisms for drilling and servicing equipment, the use of safe procedures for drilling and servicing work, employee training and education, emergency planning, and provisions for medical and first aid assistance.

Comments, in quadruplicate, should be postmarked no later than June 4, 1984 and submitted to the OSHA Docket Officer, Docket S-360, Room S-6212, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

Notice of the extension of the comment period appeared in the March 16 Federal Register.

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Week of March 26, 1984

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--FEBRUARY 1984

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.4 percent from January to February on a seasonally adjusted basis, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The February rise followed very little change in the last 4 months of 1983, and a 0.6 percent jump in January. The index of prices received by producers of intermediate goods was unchanged after inching up slightly in each of the previous 2 months. Crude material prices turned down 1.5 percent, the first decline since July.

The slower advance this months for the Finished Goods Price Index was primarily due to a sharp deceleration in price increases for consumer foods, from 2.7 percent in January to 0.7 percent in February. On the other hand, the finished energy goods index turned up after falling in each of the last 4 months, and the index for finished goods other than foods and energy rose about as much as in each of the previous 3 months.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.4 perent to 290.6 (1967=100). From February 1983 to February 1984, the Finished Goods Price Index advanced 2.3 percent. Over the year, the finished consumer foods index increased 5.2 percent, the index for finished energy goods fell 3.6 percent, prices for finished consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.3 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 2.4 percent. During the same 12-month period, prices received by producers of intermediate goods advanced 2.4 percent, and crude material prices climbed 3.9 percent.

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